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investigation of the subject by Wellhausen,² with serious modification of his formerly published theory. The indebtedness of Wellhausen is rather negative than positive, and he now avows that Jesus could not have applied the title to himself either with or without Messianic intention.

The Messianic texts of which a separate edition is announced embrace selections from the Sibylline books, the Psalms of Solomon, Enoch (in translation), Baruch, Fourth Ezra, the *Shmonê Esrê*, and other liturgical texts.

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KRITISCH-EXEGETISCHER KOMMENTAR ÜBER DAS NEUE TESTAMENT.
Begründet von H. A. W. MEYER. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.

ABTHEILUNG I, 1. *Das Matthäus-Evangelium*. Von der 7. Auflage an neu bearbeitet von DR. BERNHARD WEISS. 9. Auflage, 1898. M. 7; bound, M. 8.50.

ABTHEILUNG IV. *Der Brief an die Römer*. Von der 6. Auflage an neu bearbeitet von DR. BERNHARD WEISS. 9. Auflage, 1899. Pp. iv + 614. M. 8; bound, M. 9.50.

ABTHEILUNG VII. *Der Brief an die Galater*. Von der 6. Auflage an neu bearbeitet von DR. FRIEDR. SIEFFERT. 9. Auflage, 1899. Pp. x + 366. M. 5; bound, M. 6.50.

THE second edition of Weiss' revision of Meyer's commentary on the gospel of Matthew (eighth of Meyer), published in 1890, exhibited many striking modifications of the old master's work, in the way of typographical arrangement and excision of material which was either obsolete or more properly belonged to books on dogmatics and the life of Jesus, as well as in a fresh handling of exegetical questions involving the synoptic problem. In Weiss' new and third edition of Meyer we have what is confessedly little more than a reprint of the edition of 1890. He stays his hand from any further pruning, and emphasizes in a new preface his high appreciation of Meyer's rich contributions, not only to linguistic and grammatical interpretation, but especially to the history of the exegesis of this gospel, which often enough is flippantly characterized as mere ballast.

² See the sixth part of the *Skizzen und Vorarbeiten* (Berlin, 1899), and the review by Schürer in the *Theol. Literaturzeitung*, June 10, 1899.

Though three commentaries on the first gospel have been published since his edition of 1890, Weiss finds nothing in either of them to change essentially any of his positions. He criticises Kübel's work, in contrast with Meyer's, as lacking in sound, continuous, and comprehensive exegesis, and as biased by harmonistic, dogmatic, and homiletic interests. Many of the most difficult questions of exegesis, Weiss declares, he quietly ignores. In Nösgen's new edition he finds no improvement either over Kübel or its own earlier form. There reappears the same domination of exegesis by the requirements of an artificial and mechanical harmonistic theory and by dogmatic prepossessions.

To Holtzmann's commentary on the synoptic gospels he accords, by way of contrast to Kübel and Nösgen, the merit of sane and thorough exegesis, besides phenomenal skill in combining with his exegesis the results of synoptic criticism, though of course he dissents from Holtzmann's negative views of gospel tradition. His attempt to combine discussions of literary and historical questions arising from the synoptic problem with detailed exegesis falls under Weiss' censure, however, as seriously diverting the student's attention from the contextual meaning of the evangelist's material and causing him to miss the idiosyncrasies of the latter. It is significant that Dr. Holtzmann himself, in a review of this very commentary of Weiss, virtually admits that the reading public has confirmed this unfavorable opinion concerning his method.

A commentary on Matthew, abreast of contemporary knowledge of the synoptic question, is much needed for the use of English readers. Unless such a commentary is to appear in the "International Critical Series" sooner than now seems likely to be the case, it would be very desirable that the commentary here noticed, uniting as it does the ripest learning of two such eminent representatives of German evangelical scholarship, should be translated into English.

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THE industry and faithfulness with which, by the coöperation of editors and publishers, the commentaries of this series are from time to time revised and kept up to date, is occasion for congratulation on the part of all New Testament scholars. The volume on Romans, as revised by Weiss, belongs in the first rank of modern commentaries on this book. The last preceding edition of it, reckoned as the eighth of Meyer, appeared in 1891. In the present edition account

has been taken of Lipsius' second edition in the "Handkommentar," of the articles of Hilgenfeld in the *Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Theologie*, and of the Sanday-Headlam commentary. There has, however, been no material change either in the positions maintained or in the general character of the work.

The Sieffert edition of Meyer on Galatians appeared first in 1880, was republished in revised form in 1886, and reprinted unchanged in 1894. The present edition, reckoned as the ninth of Meyer, differs from the seventh and eighth of 1886 and 1894, not in any material alteration of the views advocated nor in the general character of the commentary, but in numerous and not unimportant matters of detail. In the introduction the south Galatian—called in Germany the new Galatian—theory, as advocated by Ramsay and Zahn, is discussed and rejected; the arguments of Steck, Loman, and others against the genuineness of the letter are examined and refuted, and the views of Clemen concerning place and time of the letter are discussed. In the commentary proper, consistently with the general method of Meyer himself, account is taken of the views of the expositors who have written on Galatians since the previous edition appeared, notably of Lipsius, Zöckler, Weiss, and Dalmer; additional emphasis has been laid upon the exposition of the course of argument, questions of biblical theology have received fresh attention, and the whole work has been subjected to a careful literary revision. The result is a book which, while true to the general ideas of Meyer, retains very little indeed of the original Meyer. Taken as it stands, it is one of the ablest, perhaps on the whole the ablest, modern commentary on Galatians.

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THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MARK. The Greek Text, with Introduction, Notes, and Indices. By HENRY BARCLAY SWETE, D.D., Professor of Divinity and Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1898. Pp. cx+412. \$3.75.

THE chief feature of this work is its extensive contribution to the linguistic study of the gospel of Mark, and, through that, of the gospel literature in general. With surpassing completeness the author has brought to bear upon this portion of the New Testament the data of